

2 Dover street New York 17 Nov 1863

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and " 22 / 163

Dear Mr May

I do not know whether my father
may have given you any intimation before now of
my intention of crossing the ocean. At all events
now I am at Wm O'Powell having arrived
in this city yesterday morning A.S.S. "Edinburgh"
I do not like to post this letter from my father
without adding a line in remembrance of the time
I spent under your roof and of the kindness I ex-
perienced from you and yours when I was in this
country before, not more than four years ago. Dur-
ing this interval I have often thought of you and
have always been interested in hearing of the welfare
of yourself Mr May and your family. I have often
thought of writing to you, but the absence of anything
good I had to say about myself and perhaps more
than that the feeling that I could not touch on
some of the most important questions of the day
without in common honesty saying things that I
knew would shock you and lower me in your
opinion - have always stood in the way. I left
my father and my mother and sisters in good
health. During the last few months my father
has begun to regain somewhat of his former spirits
which were so terribly shaken by my mother's death.
His visit to Edinburgh about a month ago at
the time of the Social Science Congress was
very good for him and seemed to stir his
blood in a way that I hardly expected.

thing ever would again. As regards myself I
am on my way to California with the intention
of probably going on to British Columbia.
I have been unsuccessful in my efforts to
get on in business at home and that and
other reasons have led me to try another
country. I believe I may say that I have the
full concurrence and sympathy of my own
family, who alone fully understand the reasons
which urge me to this step. I hope to return
ultimately to my own country whether sooner or
later if ever time alone can tell. Please
remember me to Mrs and Miss May and the
young people whose names I do not remember
and who probably do not remember me. I
expect to leave New York by the steamer "Cham-
pion" on the 23rd inst. In the mean time
I have many and much to see in this
great city while I remain.

Yours very truly
Richard Webb